

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 05700 202256Z

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 /030 W

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R 202238Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4444

UNCLAS SANTIAGO 5700

FOR CU/ARA

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC CI (RIOS, EDUARDO)

SUBJECT: 1976 IV PROGRAM.

REF: SANTIAGO 4742 AND 5243; STATE 183183.

1. BIO-DATA: EDUARDO ENRIQUE RIOS ARIAS, PRESIDENT OF MARITIME WORKERS CONFEDERATION (COMACH) AND NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PORT WORKERS (FEBACH); EMPLOYED BY FORMER UNIONS; PDOB: TALCAHUANO, CHILE, SEPT. 17, 1924; MARRIED, THREE CHILDREN AGES 21, 18 AND 3; HOME ADDRESS: O'HIGGINS 960, DEPT. 401, CONCEPCION; FOR EMERGENCIES CONTACT WIFE MRS. VALERIA COLES DE RIOS, SAME ADDRESS.

2. RIOS HAS VISITED U.S. SEVERAL OCCASIONS INCLUDING ONE AID "CONTANER PROGRAM" GRANT IN 1973. HAS ALSO VISITED VARIOUS EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AS WORKER DELEGATE ILO AND DELEGATE ITF CONGRESSES. SPEAKS AND UNDERSTANDS LITTLE ENGLISH AND WILL DEFINITELY NEED INTERPRETER. RIOS HAS EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST ATTENDING COMING AFL-CIO CONVENTION. HE HAS DESIRE TO MEET WITH TOP U.S. LABOR LEADERS, PARTICULARLY THOMAS GLEASON, PRESIDENT OF ILA. HE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO VISIT DOL OFFICIALS, AIFLD WASHINGTON, AND AFL-CIO HEADQUARTERS. HAS ALSO EXPRESSED STRONG DESIRE TO MEET SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY. GENERAL AND RECREATIONAL INTERESTS INCLUDE SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES, GRAND CANYON, NEW ORLEANS, WASHINGTON AND DISNEY WORLD.

3. ALTHOUGH CILE HAS NO NATIONAL GENERAL LABOR CONFEDERATION,
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PAGE 02 SANTIA 05700 202256Z

RIOS HAS UNQUESTIONABLY EVOLVED AS THE TOP CHILEAN LABOR LEADER

DURING PAST TWO YEARS. WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT HE BE PROGRAMED AS OBSERVER AT AFL-CIO CONVENTION (WHICH WE UNDERSTAND IS SCHEDULED FOR THIRD WEEK IN OCTOBER IN SAN FRANCISCO). HE HAS TENTATIVE PLANS TO PARTICIPATE IN ITF SEMINAR IN LIMA SEPTEMBER 22-27 AND WOULD BE FREE TO TRAVEL FROM THAT DATE FORWARD. HE SAYS HE WOULD PREFER TO TRAVEL WITH OTHER LATIN AMERICAN LABOR LEADERS BUT HAS NO OBJECTION TO BEING PROGRAMED ALONE.

4. EMBASSY WOULD APPRICIATE ANY FIRM PROGRAMING INFORMATION ON SUBJECT SOONEST. TENTATIVE ETA WASHINGTON DC SEPT. 29.
POPPER

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